



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03180.0285-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Kunihiro MITSUTAKE et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2857  
)  
Application No.: 09/931,916 ) Examiner: Baran, Mary C.  
)  
Filed: August 20, 2001 )  
)  
For: METHOD, APPARATUS, AND )  
COMPUTER PROGRAM OF ) Confirmation No.: 4340  
SEARCHING FOR CLUSTERING )  
FAULTS IN SEMICONDUCTOR )  
DEVICE MANUFACTURING )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action mailed February 20, 2004, the period for response having been extended to May 20, 2004 by a request for a one-month extension of time and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, Applicants present the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper beginning on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper beginning on page 13.

05/21/2004 WABRHAM1 00000018 09931916

01 FC:1202	36.00 OP
02 FC:1201	86.00 OP
03 FC:1251	110.00 OP